

TOWN Reminder

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Serving the town of South Hadley

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Rec Dept. faces uphill battle

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Recreation Department has had its hands full this summer, constantly monitoring the town's athletic fields to ensure that all protocols are being followed. The task is far from simple, Recreation Director Andy Rogers explained during the Sept. 8 meeting of the Selectboard.

Rogers outlined a series of

problems that has followed in the footsteps of opening the town's athletic fields. The minimum number of spectators has already been lowered after the town saw packed athletic facilities on several occasions.

"Originally, spectators were at 100 people. That then dropped to 50," said Rogers. "Soccer went the extra step at the youth level and said, 'One spectator per child.' That can be upped if

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Photo by Dalton Zbierski

Public advisories such as this one are posted at all South Hadley athletic fields.

South Hadley sees small reduction in COVID positivity

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Throughout the summer, South Hadley's number of COVID-19 cases has increased consistently each week. As the town prepares for fall, the pattern may finally be relenting.

Only two weeks after posting a positivity rate of 2.4%, a number determined by the percentage of 100 residents that test positive for COVID-19, the town has reduced its number to .73%.

"We're trending in a positive direction and encourage diligence. We want to make sure that people stay healthy," said

Town Administrator Mike Sullivan during the Sept. 2 Selectboard meeting.

After posting a new case count of 18 in late August, South Hadley has reported only seven new cases over its latest two-week window. Sullivan said he was impressed by the expediency in which tests are being given

to South Hadley residents.

"There were 2,100 people tested in the last 14 days, which is interesting because that was almost 20 percent of what's been tested in South Hadley in total, and that was in the last 14 days so there was a lot more testing

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SPORTS, 12

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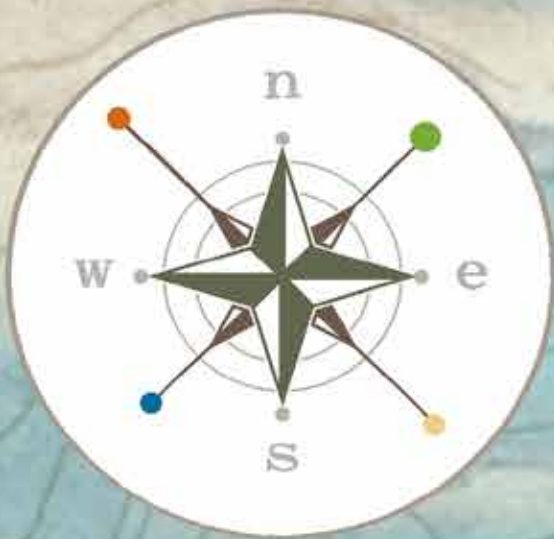
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Communication prioritized during master plan preparation

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – The process of updating South Hadley’s Master Plan is progressing. Gathering for the first time since prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Master Plan Update Advisory Committee made the most of its Sept. 2 virtual meeting.

“I want to acknowledge how much has changed since we last met and since I submitted our first draft. I said in April or May that I started writing this draft and it started feeling a little bit tone deaf given everything that was going on,” said Emily Keys Innes, the director of urban planning at Harriman, an architecture, engineering and planning firm.

Innes is currently working with the town to lead the develop of a comprehensive master plan, a document that will embody and present the municipality’s vision for the future. Despite all that has

occurred in 2020, Innes made it evident that the project must continue.

“The pandemic is not going to last the life of the master plan, but I think we’re already seeing that there are some lessons that we are learning about our communities and also about how we react to future shocks, whether it’s an immediate disaster or this prolonged uncertainty,” she said.

Nate Therien, a committee member, said he believes that South Hadley has much to learn from the past six months. From his perspective, improving communication should be prioritized by all associated with crafting the master plan.

“I think the pandemic and the forced isolation that it created has made it very clear that communication within the town is really important for sustaining the community,” said Therien. “That has led me to think that the communication section of the master plan needs to be a little more specific in terms of objectives.”

Committee member Lucia Foley

agreed with Therien’s recommendation. She noted that a simple act such as accessing Town Hall an be a frustrating endeavor.

“What’s the most basic thing you’d like to know about Town Hall? Is it open? You can’t tell by looking at the website, and that’s a perfect example how when there’s nobody who’s job it is to worry about just that, the most basic things go right by. I know it’s aspirational right now, but I think it should be there as a goal,” said Foley.

Committee member Michelle Wolfe complimented the School Committee and district as a whole for focusing on enhancing its line of communication with the public. Wolfe believes that the all of the town’s boards and committees should follow suit.

“There are many Facebook pages devoted to South Hadley,” she said. “There’s lots of information; people sharing, and I think it would be really great to see the

town more involved in these communications.”

Judith Gooch, a committee member, has been encouraged by South Hadley’s neighborly response to the pandemic. She feels strongly that there is much to build upon as the committee and master plan itself move forward.

“I want to give a shout out to our neighborhood, and this ties into the neighborhood section of the plan. Thanks to some very dedicated people, we have a neighborhood-wide email list, messages go out once a week or maybe more,” said Gooch. “People are looking out for each other. Some of us walk around the neighborhood every day and sort of keep track of what’s going on, but I think the more we can do encourage that systemically, the better of the town will be.”

More information about the master plan can be located on the town website.

Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

AAA hosts free virtual vacation webinars

REGION – AAA Travel is hosting a new series of virtual vacations to help travelers research and plan their next adventure. These new webinars showcase a variety of destinations, perfect for those looking to explore right now or in the future. Participants can interact with leading tour providers and gain more knowledge about travel options.

“Many AAA Travel clients residing in the Pioneer Valley are frustrated to be home bound,” said Sandra Marsian, vice president of the AAA Pioneer Valley. “We are all doing what we need to, keeping each other safe by staying home. But we do not have to like it, and nothing can stop us from dreaming of our future travels. Many of us hope

to return to our freedom to travel soon and are looking for ways to understand what our future travel options will be. We are also looking for ways to stay entertained and informed while we wait.”

The virtual vacations webinar series schedule includes:

- Sept. 16 - Adventure Travel
- Oct. 1 - Discover Mackinac Island Tour
- Oct. 15 - North American Vacations
- Nov. 10 - Cruise through Alaska
- Dec.1 - Explore the National Parks
- March 17 - Iceland’s Magical Northern Lights

AAA Travel has been there for travelers since 1902, supporting the travel needs of

members and non-members. These events are free and open to the public.

Registration is now open, to sign up for any, or all, of these free online events visit AAA.com/TravelEvents.

About AAA

AAA Pioneer Valley is a not-for-profit auto club with 6 offices in Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire counties of Massachusetts providing more than 200,000 local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance, and auto-related services. Since its founding in 1901, AAA Pioneer Valley has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers.

Board of Health seeking to fill two vacancies

Staff Report

SOUTH HADLEY – Volunteer opportunities are available on the South Hadley Board of Health. Consider serving South Hadley by joining the board.

The Selectboard will virtually interview candidates on Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. during a joint meeting with the Board of Health.

The Selectboard is seeking citizens with diverse interests and abilities to apply. There are no special requirements other than a willingness to serve. However, applicants must be registered to vote in the town of South Hadley.

Those wishing to apply must do so online at <https://www.southhadley.org/FormCenter/Selectboard-4/Application-for-Appointment-to-Board-Com-44>.

Applicants will be contacted with instructions for how to attend a virtual interview process.

Questions can be forwarded to Kristin Maher, executive assistant to administration, at kmaher@southhadleyma.gov.

COVID from page 1

going on,” he said.

Vice Chair Sarah Etelman asked if a town can determine its number of active cases. Due to the measurement system used by the state, the information requested can only be updated every two weeks.

“I understand your frustration; I know what you’re saying,” Sullivan said to Etelman, agreeing that daily updates would be beneficial. “I asked [the Dept. of Public Health] about it last week; they said the best thing to do is look at the 14-day average. I understand their [desire] to try to keep it consistent throughout the state so we have consistent measures for all communities and there isn’t one community going off on its own.”

Sullivan has kept himself well-informed, making the most of a meeting

this week with Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and “280 other people on a Zoom call.” From the meeting, Sullivan said he gathered that the state is working to provide smaller communities with “more tactile, finite information.”

As of Sept. 8, South Hadley has reported 212 total active cases of COVID-19 in 2020. Sullivan is hopeful that the DPH will soon post recovery rates for small towns such as South Hadley.

“We have said to the DPH on multiple occasions that, like other states, a recover number would be greatly appreciated,” he said. “Then you could look and not look at that incredibly scary number of 212 cases, but you would also be provided with information that likely 180 of them have recovered at this point. That would be helpful, and we’ll keep on pressing.”

Sullivan continued to note that there have been 6,500 special needs students learning in-person this summer in various locations. As of Tuesday’s meeting, there has yet to be an outbreak.

“That is a pretty amazing statistic,” said Sullivan.


Finally, supporting his intuition that South Hadley is curbing its COVID-19 difficulties, Sullivan told the board about the latest discovery made by the Biobot, a tool that enters the sewers, analyzing waste for the presence of infected individuals to estimate the number of active cases.

“We’re one of 17 communities in the Commonwealth doing Biobot testing,” said Sullivan. “Once we become more comfortable and more understanding of it, it will be a good predictive tool for us going forward. Our numbers have actually gone down if you look at Biobot.”

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School committee talks COVID metrics

By MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley School Committee began discussing developing metrics to determine the safety of the school buildings during the phased reopening process at its meeting on Aug. 31, including feedback from the Board of Health.

School Committee Chair Kyle Belanger began the discussion by informing the public the board is receiving feedback from their colleagues.

“I am in contact with members of the board of health and this is meaningful and important,” he said. “I want to thank publicly, the members on that

board that are taking the time to reach out.”

Interim Superintendent Diana Bonneville gave a presentation to the committee on the safety metrics using a county-wide approach.

In order for the reentry plan to proceed forward, the metrics the district proposed must be fewer than 70 new cases per 100,000 people over a 14-day period in Hampshire County and less than 3% positive testing rate (a 14-day overall combined average in all towns in Hampshire County), according to the presentation.

“On Aug. 25, DESE (the Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education) came out with a color-coded map of various COVID-19 infection rates

statewide, which really identified how much COVID-19 is currently spreading,” She said. “We met the threshold a couple weeks when South Hadley was in red because the previous week Granby and Holyoke were in red, so we knew it was just a matter of time.”

According to the presentation, the metrics Bonneville presented presume the following are in place, “People with underlying health conditions are encouraged and supported to stay home. Health procedures documented in the back-to-school reentry plan are in place...Students with the highest needs are brought back first, which includes pre-k. The density in the classrooms and school buildings

reflects the proposal submitted to DESE by the interim superintendent which includes six feet of social distancing.”

She said there are two risk indicators – case count and percent positivity.

“The case count which is new cases in the county per 100,000,” she said. “The reason we’re not using DESE’s data for just the town of South Hadley is because we don’t just live and work in South Hadley. We might travel to neighboring towns to go grocery shopping, play sports, go to church, etc.”

She said the case count by county gives a “larger population for meaningful interpretation of trends.”

Bonneville presented a for-

mula the district will be using to calculate the county case numbers.

She said the DESE indicator will lead the district to investigate where the cases are derived from, can they be contained and how it can impact the schools.

The difference between percent positivity and case counts is “case count measures the prevalence of a disease within the community,” while “percent positivity measure the ability to accurately detect disease and the likelihood of community spread,” according to the presentation.

“Again, we’re going to use the data for the county,” she said. “We get a more complete picture by analyzing the data together.”

South Hadley Library update

Staff report

SOUTH HADLEY – Although the library building continues to be closed, the public is invited to visit the libraries online and outside.

Story stroll update

The story stroll has been getting quite a few visitors, especially when the sun is shining.

The current book, “The Thank You Letter” by Jane Cabrera will be up for a couple more weeks and then the library staff will be replacing it with a new story.

Follow the Gaylord Memorial Library on Instagram, <https://instagram.com/gaylordmemoriallibrary>, or Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/gaylordlibrary>, for updates or visit the library’s website to learn more about the Story Stroll program online <https://gaylordlibrary.org/youth-services/story-stroll/>.

<https://vimeo.com/447845601>

Homebound delivery

Homebound Delivery is now available to South Hadley residents who have health or transportation issues that keep them from the library. Staff at Gaylord is able to deliver books, movies, CDs, etc. to community members who are not able to take advantage of the curbside pickup program happening at the South Hadley Public Library.

If you, or someone you know would like to learn more and sign up for homebound delivery, please visit <https://gaylordlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>.

Homebound Delivery FAQ at <https://gaylordlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/>.

September is library card sign-up month

September is library card sign-up month and it’s never been easier to apply for your own library card.

Visit <https://gaylord.cwmars.org/eg/opac/register> to complete

the online form and a library card will be mailed out to you.

Sign-up for a library card at <https://gaylord.cwmars.org/eg/opac/register>.

Lobby pickup now available at SHPL

Library items can now be picked up at the South Hadley Public Library lobby, Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Library patrons must wear a mask when entering the library. Visit <http://www.shadleylib.org/> to learn more. Learn how to pick up your holds at <http://www.shadleylib.org/>.

Virtual programming

As we begin to look at programming for the fall, the library would want to hear from you. If there is a virtual program or specific topic of interest that you would like to see on our event calendar, let the library by email.

Follow Gaylord Memorial Library on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/gaylordlibrary/>)

<https://instagram.com/gaylordmemoriallibrary>

Follow Gaylord Memorial Library on Instagram (<https://instagram.com/gaylordmemoriallibrary>)

Looking for an easy way to support Gaylord?

Attend an event, check out a book, and be an active library user!

For more information, contact the library at 413-538-5047 or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/gaylordlibrary>.

The Gaylord Memorial Library is located at 47 College Street, South Hadley and is a branch of the South Hadley Public Library.

Hours: Thursday 1 to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information go to shadleylib.org, gaylordlibrary.org or facebook.com/gaylordlibrary.



Photos by Dalton Zbierski

As a group of high school students practice lacrosse on one side of the field, a group of younger players practice passing in soccer.

REC DEPT. from page 1

they don’t have childcare; a sibling could then attend.”

Selectboard Chair Jeff Cyr asked about a gathering that took place at the high school athletic fields several weeks ago, drawing many residents to the site. With an overcrowded baseball game already in progress, Rogers said the incident developed when two parties arrived at the football field simultaneously.

“That Sunday there were some football players there; I think they were our kids. We had a scheduled soccer practice. The football kids showed up and said that they’d been there every week at that time,” said Rogers. “It wasn’t anything scheduled. I think they left and went to another field in another community to go play.”

The adult baseball league also lost its privilege to play organized ball on the town’s athletic fields. League participants violated a no spectator policy that was agreed to at the onset of the summer season.

“They were a group that rented the field for a league. That group is no longer allowed back,” said Rogers. “One of the agreements for adult leagues this year is no spectators. They exceeded their allowance. When they asked for the field this fall, we turned it away from them.”

Rogers told the board the group did not follow the protocols which all participants had previously signed off on.

“They said, ‘Oh, it was our final game.’ They had a lot of people there. I just said, ‘You ruined it for yourself. You’re out in the future now.’ They came



The South Hadley Recreation Department has taken steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including signage at town’s fields.



With the fall season only a week away, student athletes playing fall sports are practicing on the high school athletic fields.

back last week trying to do a fall league, and I said, ‘Hey, you’re not welcome here anymore. You couldn’t follow the rules and you’re out,’” said Rogers.

The group is prohibited from scheduled play, but can play pick-up ball, as the town does not enforce access to its athletic sites. Cyr offered up an explanation for the loophole.

“The majority of our parks don’t have fences on them. If you look at the middle school, there’s

three fields behind it without any gates or fences; they’re off the road and hidden,” said Cyr. “I think a lot of times if they get to the turf and can’t go there, that’s where they go to next.”

Rogers described a six-month window in which no scheduling was occurring as being a “free for all.” With the arrival of high school athletics on Sept. 18, he expects that athletic activities will take on a more orderly shape.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Town Reminder, please email townreminder@turley.com.



Granby Public Library update

Staff Report

GRANBY – There are now more or returning resources through the Granby Public Library.

Granby library’s playgroup returns on Zoom!

The Collaborative will sponsor this early literacy and STEM CFCE Playgroup every Tuesday at 10 a.m. beginning on Sept. 15.

Join the playgroup leader, Marti live on Zoom for hands on sensory play, plus circle songs and story time.

Everyone is welcome. Ideal for ages birth to seven years.

Also in the works this fall are socially distant meet ups at Dufresne Park in Granby late September through October.

Parent Conversation Groups on Zoom geared to the challenges of raising young children in the Time of COVID.

Upcoming CFCE Zoom parenting workshops:

- Baby and toddler sign language class
- First steps to reading

- Helping children manage anxiety
- Hola amigos y amigas

Visit collaborative.org for updates! You will need to download the newest version of Zoom on your computer, tablet or smart phone.

Email the library at granbylibrary@gmail.com or mwiechman@collaborative.org (same link each week) link to the join in.

Scholastic teachables are now available

Homeschooling? In- schooling? Looking for some structure and guidance for learning?

The Granby Library now has Scholastic Teachables to use for free from any device. This resource gives people access to thousands of printables, lessons and more for students through grade six. You do not need to have a Granby library card, other communities welcome!

To log on, you will need a username and password contact us for those - call the library or email the library during open hours Tuesday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., call 413-467-3320 or email granbypubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish chicken BBQ set for Sept. 20

Staff Report

GRANBY – Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Granby, at 256 State Street, has held a chicken BBQ for many years.

This year’s event will be on Sunday, September 20 from 3 to 5 p.m.

The dinner will be a half chicken, baked potato and corn on the cob. Tickets are \$10 each.

This year, due to the pandemic, the event has been limited to a take-out only meal. Following Board of Health guidelines, the committee has planned a meal for \$10. The chicken will be barbecued in the pits as usual. There will be baked potatoes and fresh buttered sweet corn.

Meal service will be limited to pick up at the back of the church.

Since there will be no gathering in the pavilion, the live music will have to wait for next year.

Call the parish office to buy tickets in advance at 413-467-9821. Limited number of ticket sales day of event.

Northampton Kiwanis Club supports locals during pandemic

NORTHAMPTON – During its first ever video-conference club meeting this year, the members of the Northampton Kiwanis Club posed this question: “What can we do?” Members were diligently practicing physical distancing and were logged in from their homes in Florence, Easthampton, Westfield, Greenfield, and Winchester, New Hampshire, and were discussing the COVID-19 outbreak. Club members shared stories of the difficulty they and their neighbors were having accessing basic needs like food and diapers.

“Well, that’s certainly something we can do!” said Club Secretary, George Delisle. Kiwanis International has a long history of keeping children and their families safe. Founded in 1915, Kiwanis International is a global organization of clubs and members dedicated to serving the children of the world. Each year, clubs sponsor nearly 150,000 service projects, complete more than 18.5 million hours in volunteer service, and raise more than \$100 million.

Locally, the Northampton Kiwanis Club and the Northampton High School Key Club have recently worked with Northampton ReUse on its Christmas toy distribution, provided backpacks filled

with school supplies to local elementary school students, and worked with the Salvation Army on its “red kettle” campaign. The Northampton Kiwanis Club is accepting donations of non-perishable food, infant formula, diapers and baby wipes at several locations around Northampton. Food items will be distributed to Cathedral in the Night, which serves outdoor meals each Sunday to anyone in attendance, and baby items will be donated to It Takes a Village, a local nonprofit that provides free postpartum support to families in Western Mass.

A list of the most requested items and the donation drop-off locations will be posted on the club’s website, www.northamptonkiwanis.org, and on their Facebook page. Monetary donations can also be sent directly to the Northampton Kiwanis Club, PO Box 60387, Florence, MA, 01062. The club is also opening its online meetings to anyone who wants to get involved. Anyone from the Pioneer Valley who is looking for ways to serve their community can email club secretary George Delisle at gdelisle223@gmail.com for the link to the next meeting.

Montague resident offers free virtual workshop series to boost health, immunity

MONTAGUE – Over the course of four free workshops this fall, Montague resident Nadya Tkachenko will share with participants how the ancient wisdom of Ayurveda and modern habit science can help boost immunity and reduce stress.

Ayurveda is India’s 5,000-year-old system of natural healing and has been around for many centuries and through many pandemics. Nadya will share practical tools and proven modern habit-changing techniques for establishing consistent daily routines for optimal wellness.

The workshops, conducted via Zoom, are free and open to all. Registrants will receive a recording. Register for one or all four workshops at <https://www.sunesenceyoga.com/health>

Workshop dates:

Sept. 13 at 3 p.m. – Lifestyle tools for greater immunity, ease and resilience

Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. – Diet and remedies for boosting immunity

Nov. 8 at 3 p.m. – Getting a good night’s sleep for mind and body health

Dec. 6 at 3 p.m. – Tools for busting stress and overwhelm and for experiencing more ease

About Nadya Tkachenko

Nadya has been a practitioner of yoga for over 20 years, having first come to the practice looking for a way to de-stress after a long day at an office desk on Wall

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10. Split pulses in Indian cooking

14. Tropical starchy tuberous root

15. Well known constellation

16. About aviation

17. Bowfin genus

18. Proper

19. Expression of annoyance

20. Cabbies

22. Bro or sis

23. Spiritual leader

24. Where football coaches work

27. Old TV part

30. A way to color

31. Touch lightly

32. Surround

35. Breached

37. Aristocratic young woman

38. Dry ravine

39. Hebrew measurement units

40. Supporter

41. Type of sword

42. Influential Irish playwright

43. Witch

44. Flower cluster

45. Mark Wahlberg’s animal friend

46. Psychedelic amphetamine

47. Actors’ group

48. Cool!

49. Salts

52. Group of SE China

55. Illuminated

56. Semitic Sun god

60. Water (Spanish)

61. Employed

63. Japanese ankle sock

64. Fishing fly

65. Some pheasants are this

66. Literary name for Ireland

67. Must have

68. A way to write

69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. American state

2. Hindu model of ideal man

3. Type of acid

4. Drenches

5. “The Raven” writer

6. Emerged

7. Alpha Centauri: ___

8. Democratic Presidential candidate

9. Hostelry

10. Fathers

11. Any plant with leaves used for flavoring

12. Member of a Semitic people

13. Lesotho monetary unit

21. Lots

23. Jewish address corresponding to “Sir”

25. Male parent

26. A way to get

27. Body part

28. Seam in an organ

29. Landlocked African country

32. Process for producing ammonia

33. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues

34. Bugged down

36. Native American tribe

37. Unfashionable person

38. Female grunts

40. Well known

41. Gurus

43. Norse mythological site

44. Tell on

46. ___ Farrow, actress

47. Cotton fabric

49. Reciter of Scandinavian poems

50. Clouds

51. Satisfies

52. Shuttered Air Force base in Germany

53. Phil ___, former CIA

54. Japanese seaport

57. Female horse or zebra

58. First month of ancient Hebrew calendar

59. Trigonometric function (Slang)

62. Insecticide

GUEST COLUMN

Curing properly secures your harvest

My onions had begun to fall over at least three weeks ago. I have been so busy that I didn't harvest them yet. Do I cure them in the hot sun or in the shade? I've forgotten. Why don't we revisit the significance of curing onions and other vegetables that are typically stored over the winter? If this important step is overlooked, we will likely be disappointed by produce that spoils long before it should have. Curing not only hardens the outer skin of the vegetable, it also finishes the ripening process of the flesh.

As for my onions, both the hot sun and the shade scenarios were found to be accurate. When three-quarters of the onion tops have fallen over push down the rest and let them sit in the ground a little while longer. Then, unearth the bulbs and lay them, tops and all, on the ground in the sun, turning occasionally. When they turn completely brown cut the stems to one inch and spread them on screens single file in a warm and dry, well-ventilated area to cure further. They can rest in that location for up to two months, then store at temperatures close to 40 degrees. Store apples, bananas and tomatoes away from onions, as these vegetables excrete ethylene gas as they ripen, causing onions to sprout prematurely. Use bulbs that have two centers first, they won't store well. It is interesting to note that the same compound that starts the tears flowing when we cut into onions- sulfur, is also a potent fungicide and bactericide. No wonder they store so well!

Potatoes are perhaps the most tricky vegetable to store. Curing them properly will help to prevent rot, premature sprouting and toxic greening of the skin and flesh. By waiting a week or more after the plant has died before digging up the tubers, the skins will thicken and be less prone to injury during harvest. Once they are dug, a week spent in a cool and totally dark space will further firm their skin and change sugars to starch, completing the ripening process. Never wash potatoes prior to storage! Gently brush off dirt and store in a single layer in the darkness at 55 to 60 degrees. Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Use any pitch-forked or shovel-marked spuds first, as damage to the skin will invite rot.

Harvest winter squash after vines have died back or prior to an impending frost. A pretty New England autumn scene is fields of pumpkins or colorful squash curing under sunny skies. If you follow the farmers lead just be sure to lift squash off the ground, and cover if rain or frost threatens. Two weeks in the field or a sunny, well-ventilated space is sufficient for curing, at which point the skin should be hard enough to resist the dent of a fingernail. Gently washing squash in a 10% bleach solution will help to prevent rot prior to storing at temperatures between 50 and 60 degrees. The flavor of many of our favorite squashes only improves with age.

I harvested my garlic three or four weeks ago; the signal was that one third of its foliage has withered and browned. It was dried stems and all in a shady, protected spot up off of the ground. Soon I'll gently rub off dirt and cut back the stems to a couple of inches before storing for the winter in a cool and dry location, in mesh bags, slatted trays or other methods. Softneck types of garlic have pliable foliage that lends itself well to braiding. In any case, allowing for good air circulation will ensure a long storage life.

IN THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rally not in the best interests of South Hadley

A standout planned for Labor Day in South Hadley was advertised as a pro-Trump and Back the Blue rally. While I don't support Trump, I believe one can and should participate in our nation's political conversations. So if this was just a pro-Trump rally, I wouldn't be so upset.

However, I am very upset about this rally. What I take issue with is mixing pro-Trump support with support for police. When these two causes come together, it promotes Trump's "law and order" – a complicated idea that hides racism and authoritarianism behind surveillance, control, and patriotism. Trump's "law and order" claims dissenters are unpatriotic, are evil, are dangerous. Trump's "law and order" villainizes Black people, Latinx people, and immigrants. Trump's "law and order" calls on police to become tools of his authoritarian government.

Trump and those saying "back the blue" do not actually support police. To actually support police, we need to consider the enormous burden we've placed on police forces by taking away or under-supporting

other public services. We ask our police to protect us from and take care of us in violent situations like domestic abuse, to deescalate conflicts between neighbors, to monitor traffic, to respond to drug overdoses, but also to respond to mental health crises, including children in crisis at our schools. The skills for one situation do not apply to the others, and we ask too much of one job. In order to truly support police, we would fund other types of first responders and social services, so that police can focus on the parts of their job that directly match their training and skills.

Our local South Hadley police force does their best to keep our community safe. I feel awful that they are put in a position where community support for their work is conflated with Trump's rhetoric that supports police, but only if the police protect government and property, rather than people. It is a clever political tool that threatens our safety as a community. This Trump and Back the Blue rally was not in the best interests of South Hadley.

Alanna Hoyer-Leitzel

GUEST COLUMN

Can I hide my Social Security in a tax-advantaged account?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I will be 62 years of age at the end of this year. Can I start drawing my Social Security at age 62 and have it directly deposited into my IRA (arm's length), not spend it and continue to work without affecting my tax position? I will defer actually using it until a later date *Signed: Curious Investor*

Dear Curious Investor: Regardless of where you have your Social Security benefits deposited, if you continue to work after claiming early benefits, you'll be subject to Social Security's earnings test. The earnings test applies to anyone who collects benefits before they reach their full retirement age, which for you is 66 years and 8 months.

It doesn't matter if you spend your benefits, save them, or invest them; you'll still be subject to Social Security's earnings limit. And, since IRS rules say that only earned income (which excludes Social Security benefits) can be deposited into an individual retirement account, it is not possible for you to direct-deposit your Social Security benefits into an IRA. In any case, even if you

otherwise save your benefits for later use; you will still be subject to Social Security's earnings limit. For 2020 the annual earnings limit is \$18,240 (the limit changes annually) and if that is exceeded, Social Security will take back benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. The earnings limit goes up by about 2.5 times in the year you reach your full retirement age (FRA) and goes away once your FRA is attained.

Social Security gets your earnings information from the IRS when you file your income taxes, and you cannot avoid the earnings test by having the money deposited for later use. The earnings test will still apply, and they will take back some of your benefits if you exceed the limit. For information, by "take back" benefits, I mean they will notify you that they have overpaid you (due to your earnings from working) and will give you the option of either paying them back in full with a lump sum payment, or they will withhold your future benefits until they recover what you owe because you exceeded the earnings limit.

As for your "tax position" on your benefits, that will depend upon your combined

Please see **SOCIAL SECURITY**, page 8

A QUOTE

of NOTE

“ The case count which is new cases in the county per 100,000. The reason we're not using DESE's data for just the town of South Hadley is because we don't just live and work in South Hadley. We might travel to neighboring towns to go grocery shopping, play sports, go to church, etc. ”

said Diana Bonneville
in "School committee talks COVID metrics."

OPINION PAGE/
LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to townreminder@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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Free ValleyBike membership for people who qualify

Staff Report

REGION – ValleyBike Share is the electric assist Bike Share program of the Pioneer Valley that includes the cities and towns of Amherst, Easthampton, Holyoke, Northampton, South Hadley, Springfield and the UMass Amherst Campus.

Recognizing the need for Equity in Bike Share for marginalized individuals, coupled with systemic racism which has dramatically limited and in the vast majority of cases prevented wealth accumulation by Black people and other people of color, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and the participating cities and towns secured funding from the

Community Foundation of Western Mass to underwrite the cost of annual memberships for people who qualify for government assistance.

Bewegen, the ValleyBike Share vendor, has created an Access Pass program whose mission is to assure that ValleyBike is equitable, affordable and available to all residents regardless of their financial situation. ValleyBike access passes usually cost \$10 for unlimited one-hour rides for a full calendar year during the ValleyBike season April 1 to Nov. 30 (compared to standard cost of \$80 for unlimited 45-minute rides) but are available at no cost this year due to

the pandemic and the late open of ValleyBike.

All people from the six participating cities and towns who are eligible for WIC, SNAP, MassHealth Standard or Section Eight Housing are encouraged to please go to the www.ValleyBike.org website to sign up for the no cost access pass now.

In addition to the ability to sign up on the website, several local agencies plan to partner with ValleyBike to help people sign up.

Access Pass Membership is free this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but people still need to enter a credit card or other form of identification to register.

People who are unbanked (do not have a bank account or a credit card) can still sign up by downloading the application and mailing it to BWG Field Ops P.O. Box 6102 Holyoke 01041. Details are on the ValleyBike website.

PVPC, the participating cities and towns and Bewegen are working to grow the access pass program to include community “ambassadors” – paid community residents who want to promote the availability of access passes to their family, friends and neighbors. Access pass users are encouraged to apply to be community ambassadors, and organizations and individuals interested in helping build the ambassador program are encouraged to get in touch.



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kelby Sanders

South Hadley sailor serves in south China sea

SOUTH CHINA SEA – Yeoman 3rd Class Hayley Schaeffer, from South Hadley, relays the status of damage control efforts via telephone during a damage control drill aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS New Orleans (LPD 18). New Orleans, part of the America Amphibious Ready Group assigned to Amphibious Squadron 11, along with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, is operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility to enhance interoperability with allies and partners and serve as a ready response force to defend peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

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A row of three social media icons: Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

Police update town on rally, transparency

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – During a virtual appearance during the Sept. 8 Selectboard meeting, Police Chief Jennifer Gundersen updated residents on the status of the department. She addressed both positive developments and unfortunate events during her public debriefing.

Rally Incident

A Sept. 7 protest held in the proximity of the Village Commons and Center Church of South Hadley began peaceful but became concerning, according to Gundersen who explained to the Selectboard what occurred on Monday.

“The rally or protest yesterday was concerning on a lot of different levels,” said Gundersen. “The anger and the frustration that we heard from the community; we were there but weren’t being seen.”

What Facebook posts called a Trump rally brought in opposing views on equity, justice and Black Lives matter groups.

“Both groups were very vocal for their causes,” she said in an interview on Thursday morning. “There were times that I was able to observe what appeared to be strong language and frustration then times there were members getting together having dialogue about their views. Then there were more aggressive and forceful dialogue... There were moments that I think people needed to take pause and regroup.”

Through its social media channels, the department was aware that chalk writing would occur. Gundersen was optimistic that the messages would be positive but was let down by her observations.

“I had the sense that they would be messages of equity and messages of community, but there were some written things that were pretty disappointing against the police,” said Gundersen.

Town Administrator Mike Sullivan expressed his frustration as well. He complimented the department for its presence at the rally and spoke disparagingly about



Photos by Dalton Zbierski

The South Hadley Police Department on Bridge St. has remained active this summer, addressing a variety of community concerns.



South Hadley Police Department patrol vehicles such as this one can be seen all throughout the town on a regular basis.

writing angry insults in chalk at law enforcement.

“I think South Hadley is better than doing chalk drawings; trying to lump all policemen into a bucket saying they’re bad because you have a lot of good policemen who are just trying to do the right thing for their communities. I’m sad to see those comments on the sidewalk,”

said Sullivan.

The rally was between a Trump for president group and a group in opposition, according to Sullivan in a Sept. 10 interview.

“We don’t know who the opposing group was nor do they have to report to the town,” he said. “There were no acts of violence, arrests, injuries or orders to clear the area. For the most part, people were fairly congenial within their own groups, but not so much toward each other.”

Gundersen noted that the rally turned tense after both groups shouted at each other.

“Again, I’ve been following up on the vigils just to make sure with the organizers that things are going well and they feel supported by us and safe. There were sometimes I didn’t feel all that safe yesterday,” said Gundersen.

Vice Chair Sarah Etelman offered Gundersen praise. Etelman shared with Gundersen what she was told regarding

Monday’s rally.

“I heard third hand from the protest that happened up on the Commons yesterday that there was a potential situation and that you appeared out of nowhere, de-escalated the situation and everybody went back to the neutral sides. I heard from people in our community on how well you handled that,” said Etelman.

As Gundersen filled in the Selectboard on recent events during the Sept. 8 meeting, she detailed a part of the disrespect that members of the department experienced during Monday’s rally near the Village Commons.

Sullivan, disturbed by her description, shared another inappropriate gesture that was aimed at a member of law enforcement last month.

“There was another incident a couple weeks ago in which a long-time officer experienced in South Hadley something that he’d never experienced before where for no reason a car of teenagers drove by him and used an offensive hand gesture to him for no reason; just out of the clear blue sky,” said Sullivan. “The police officer that witnessed this and had never witnessed it before in South Hadley is a congenial [person] who has been in South Hadley all his life and never I’ve ever heard as being an aggressive officer,” said Sullivan.

Transparency

Gundersen led off her Tuesday evening Selectboard appearance by revealing a number of statistics that pertain to law enforcement in South Hadley. She shared data collected in June, July and August, a period that is perhaps the department’s busiest.

Please see **POLICE**, page 13

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SOCIAL SECURITY from page 6

from all other sources (investments, interest, pensions, earnings, etc.), plus 50% of the benefits you received during the tax year, plus any non-taxable interest you may have (combined this is known as your Modified Adjusted Gross Income, or “MAGI”). If you file your income taxes as a single and your MAGI is more than \$25,000 (or if you file “married-jointly and your MAGI is more than \$32,000) then 50% of your benefits will become part of your taxable income. And filing single with a MAGI of more than \$34,000 (or \$44,000 if married-filing jointly), up to 85% of your Social Security benefits will become part of your taxable income (by the IRS). Once again, it doesn’t matter how you dispose of your benefit payments; they will still be taxable if you exceed the clip levels mentioned above, and you will still be subject to Social Security’s earnings test until you reach your full retirement age.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Living through history

Local elementary students share their thoughts on COVID-19

SOUTH HADLEY – Much like the rest of the world, children have gone through the pandemic and are experiencing history being made from their homes.

Third graders from Mosier Elementary School were tasked with a writing assignment about their thoughts and feelings surrounding COVID-19, according to teacher Allyson Saul.

This poem could be in any form the students wished and submissions included haiku, acrostic, shape, free verse and rhyming poems. The assignment was created by Leah McCarthy.

By Ryder Mayer

Coloring
NO one can come over
Watching “Victorious” the TV show
I have been playing basketball
Doing school work
One day at a time
This is week number nine

By Manny Reyes

Wear a mask to go outside
Always wash your hands
We are stuck inside all day

By Nico Rippa

Coughing
Opposite of what we want
Virus
Impossible to stop
Dying

By Faelyn Rose

Bad virus is here
Using Legos with schoolwork
Hope it’s over soon

By Nolan Soderbaum

Contagious
Out of control
Right here in Massachusetts
Online school
No sports
Around the world
Virus
In this country
Running lives across the nation
Unfun
Social distancing

In the Classroom

USDA extends free meals for kids through Dec. 31

WASHINGTON, DC—The U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture will extend several flexibilities through as late as Dec. 31. The flexibilities allow summer meal program operators to continue serving free meals to all children into the fall months.

This move will help ensure – no matter what the situation is on-the-ground – children have access to nutritious food as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. USDA has been and continues to be committed to using the Congressionally appropriated funding that has been made available.

“As our nation reopens and people return to work, it remains critical our children continue to receive safe, healthy, and nutritious food. During the COVID-19 pandemic, USDA has provided an unprecedented amount of flexibilities to help schools feed kids through the school meal programs, and today, we are also extending summer meal program flexibilities for as long as we can, legally and financially,” said Secretary Perdue. “We appreciate the incredible efforts by our school foodservice professionals year in and year out, but this year we have an unprecedented situation. This extension of summer program authority will employ summer program sponsors to ensure meals are reaching all children – whether they are learning in the classroom or virtually – so they are fed and ready to learn, even in new and ever-changing learning environments.”

USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service is extending a suite of nationwide waivers for the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option through the end of 2020, or until available funding runs out. This includes:

- Allowing SFSP and SSO meals to be served in all areas and at no cost;
- Permitting meals to be served outside of the typically-required group settings and meal times;
- Waiving meal pattern requirements as necessary; and
- Allowing parents and guardians to pick-up meals for their children.

Collectively, these flexibilities ensure meal options for children continue to be available so children can access meals under all circumstances. USDA is taking this unprecedented action to respond to the needs of its stakeholders, who have shared concerns about continuing to reach those in need without enlisting the help of traditional summer sites located throughout communities across the US. While there have been some well-meaning people asking USDA to fund this through the entire 2020-2021 school year, USDA is obligated to not spend more than is appropriated by congress.

Importantly, the summer meal program waiver extensions announced today are based on current data estimations. Over the past six months, partners across the country have stood up nearly 80,000 sites, handing out meals at a higher reimbursement rate than the traditional school year program. USDA has continuously recalculated remaining appropriated funds to determine how far we may be able to provide waivers into the future, as congress did not authorize enough funding for the entire 2020-2021 school year. Reporting activities are delayed due to States responding to the pandemic; however based upon the April data we currently have available, FNS projects that it could offer this extension, contingent on funding, for the remaining months of 2020. USDA will continue to actively monitor this rapidly evolving situation and continue to keep Congress informed of our current abilities and limitations.

Since the start of the public health emergency, FNS has been maximizing existing program services and flexibilities to ensure those in need have access to food through our 15 federal nutrition assistance programs. To date, USDA has provided more than 3,000 flexibilities across these programs. USDA has also leveraged new and innovative approaches to feeding kids, including a public-private partnership that provided nearly 40 million meals directly to the doorsteps of low-income rural children. For more information on FNS’ response to COVID-19, visit fns.usda.gov/coronavirus.



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Most schools opting to play with modified rules

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – The “returns” are still early and many more schools will need to vote, but it appears most of the schools in Western Massachusetts are planning to return to action when fall sports are allowed to begin practicing on Sept. 18.

Schedules have yet to be created and finalized for the abbreviated “Fall 1” season, but most schools and their respective school committee have agreed that allowing students to return to their respective fields is good

for a possible return to “some-what” normalcy.

As of Labor Day, Belcher-town, Holyoke, Ludlow, Minnechaug Regional, Monson, North Brookfield, Quabbin Regional, South Hadley, and Ware have confirmed they will be participating in the Fall 1 season.

This means, these schools will field teams in the following sports: boys soccer, girls soccer, field hockey, golf, cross country, and girls volleyball.

In order to be able to participate in these sports, the schools will need to follow a slew of guidelines that have been issued

by the state.

There are new sport specific rules, which are subject to change as the schools navigate through the next couple of months, but all sports will have to follow a set of standard guidance which are related to areas such as social distancing, not sharing equipment, entering and exiting fields, the roles of officials, avoiding contact such as shaking hands, high-fiving, or other types of contact between teammates. There will be no post-game handshakes for the time being and officials are ordered to enter and leave the field, and do not have to sign game forms.

More school committees will be holding votes during the next week following the Labor Day holiday and schools will need to inform their respective leagues within the PVIAC whether or not they will be participating so schedules for the fall season can be developed and finalized.

It is unclear exactly how many games will be played in each individual sport. Soccer and field hockey normally play 16-18 games, and could fit almost that many with no playoffs.

The MIAA will not sponsor any playoffs, however, depending on how things go, the PVIAC could develop playoffs within leagues. Teams are supposed to be playing in a close geographic range, which will make travel from areas like the Berkshires somewhat difficult in a tournament situation.

As of press time, only Southwick Regional School has publicly reported it will not participate in the Fall 1 season. If it allows fall sports in the Fall 2 season in February, the school could have trouble finding other schools to play by not participating in the Fall 1 season.



Submitted photo **Brian Robie takes the win in the main modified race.**

Brian Robie scores big in Sept. 5 Modified twin bill

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Modified top gun Brian Robie had a huge night Saturday, Sept. 5, at Monadnock Speedway.

The Sunapee, N.H. hot shoe scored both a win and a runner-up finish in a pair of NHSTRA Battle for The Cup 35-lappers, to open a huge lead in the weekly racing series Modified point standings while, at the same time gaining breathing room over number two Cup points man Matt Kimball in the Battler for the Cup Standings.

Kimball also had a good night, leading 55 laps of the combined events, and topping the nightcap for his second Modified victory in the last two weeks. If not for being spun out of the lead in the first go-round, the second-generation Bennington, N.H. star might easily have swept Saturday's twinbill.

In other feature racing Saturday, Superman Aaron Fellows (Croydon, NH) stormed to his track-high tenth victory of the summer, while Pure Stocker Matt Lambert (Ashuelot, NH) earned his first 2020 victory lap. Mini Stock mighty man Gordon Farnum (Fitzwil-

liam, NH) rocketed to win number six. The Street Stock division was not active Saturday.

In the first NHSTRA Modified feature, Kimball and Robie sat on row one, the fastest pair of the 20 starters aligned by time trial results. Kimball, with Todd Patnode rocketing to his back bumper, took immediate control.

Kimball set a fast pace the first 21 laps, with Robie then using the low groove to take the lead. Two laps later, with plenty of help from behind, Kimball spun out of second.

Trevor Bleau then briefly moved up to the deuce, but that was as good as things would get for the Troy, N.H. speedster when he was slowed by mechanical failure. When the checkers waved, it was steady Brian Chapin following Robie across the finish line, with Scott MacMichael coming from row four to finish third.

The Modified nightcap was an often brutal event, slowed by no fewer than seven caution and one red-flag delays. What was certain at the end was that Matt Kimball, from row two,

Please see **RACE**, page 11

New season, different rules



Throw-ins will be taken away, and a free kick or pass will be the method used to bring the ball back in play.



Head balls will be banned for this fall.



Corner kicks will not be a part of soccer this fall due to the avoidance of head balls that result from the kicks.



Players will have to avoid contact like this under revised rules for soccer this fall.

File photos

Basketball Hall to have first colorized minted coins

SPRINGFIELD – In August 2020, the U.S. Mint releases its first colorized coins as part of the Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coin Program. The program recognizes the 60th anniversary of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame with curved coins in gold, silver, and clad. A limited number of silver proof and clad uncirculated coins are colorized on the reverse side. The silver coin features a colored net, rim, and channels on the basketball. The clad coin colorizes the entire basketball as well as the net and rim.

Colorizing coins appeared in the early 1990s by nations such as Uganda, Equatorial Guinea, and Palau. Now many countries around the world make colorized coins. Canada and Australia are large producers of these coins and develop many innovative techniques for applying color. The Royal Canadian Mint was the first to produce a colorized circulating coin, the 25-cent coin, in 2004.

Coins are colorized by methods such as applying a “sticker” to the surface, adding ink or paint through a computerized “printing” process, or enameling by filling recessed areas with paint. The U.S. Mint used a third-party to colorize the Basketball commemorative coins using an automated process.

The Basketball Hall of Fame Colorized Silver Coin features a white net, dark orange rim, and black channels on the basketball. Channels are the seams that go around the ball. Limiting the color on the ball to the channels retains the look of the silver and texture of the basketball.

The clad colorized coin features an orange basketball with black channels, white net, and dark orange rim. Applying color to the whole basketball enhances the curvature of the coin and gives it a three-dimensional effect. The colors of the net and rim enhance the effect. The orange color of the basketball matches the hue associated with the sport.

In addition to the colorized silver and clad coins, the Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coin Program includes gold, silver, and clad coins without color in proof and uncirculated finishes. All the coins in the program share the same obverse and reverse designs that celebrate the sport of basketball and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Bay State games launches 32nd year of Future Leaders Scholarship

REGION – The Bay State Games is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2020 Future Leaders Scholarship Program. This marks the thirty-second year of this valuable scholarship program that recognizes the leaders of tomorrow who excel in academics, community service, and athletics. The scholarship program is available to any Massachusetts High School student in the class of 2021. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Summer Games, participation in the Bay State Games is not required but is recommended. Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to the top applicants.

“Bay State Games is proud to provide valuable college scholarships to student-athletes representing high schools and communities from across Massachusetts,” said Bay State Games Executive Director, Kevin Cummings. “While the COVID-19 pandemic impacted our traditional spring timeframe for this scholarship, we have moved the process to the fall to ensure that students in the class of 2021 will still have access to this opportunity. I encourage all former Bay State Games Summer and Winter Games participants currently entering their senior year of high school to apply.”

Candidates must submit their application information online by October 15, 2020. The selection process will begin with a review of each student’s application, written recommendations, and transcripts. A number of students will then be selected for virtual interviews which will be conducted the week of November 9. At the conclusion of interviews, six state-wide scholarship winners will be announced.

Additional information on the scholarship and a link to an application form can be found at www.bay-stategames.org/future-leaders-scholarship.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

The Town Reminder is on Facebook. Log on today

MIAA makes statement on the fall season

FRANKLIN – The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) COVID-19 Task Force met virtually on August 27, 2020 to review and approve sport modifications for the fall 2020 sport season. The MIAA Board of Directors approved, at their August 19, 2020 meeting, the formal athletic structure for 2020-2021 season, as well as additional Educational Athletic recommendations provided by the Task Force.

These recommendations were developed after months of meetings, discussions, research and collaboration with Massachusetts Governing entities.

MIAA President and Marshfield Superintendent Jeffrey Granatino stated, “It’s exciting that student-athletes and coaches from across the Commonwealth are finally able to prepare for an actual athletic season. The work that the MIAA COVID-19 Task Force and our individual sports committees put forth will allow for these sports to take place in a fashion that adheres to the safety precautions/modifications that have been

recommended by the EEA.”

The MIAA fall season will officially begin on September 18, 2020. The following activities were approved by the Board of Directors for the Fall I season: Soccer, Fall Gymnastics, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Swim & Dive, Golf and Dance.

Following this structural approval, individual MIAA sport committee representatives established sport modifications in alignment with guidelines from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the MIAA. These modifications were vetted through the MIAA Sports Medicine Committee (SMC), which includes two epidemiologists who worked with both the EEA and DESE, over a series of three virtual meetings.

The MIAA Task Force unanimously approved all modifications as presented for Fall I Season during yesterday’s sub-committee meeting (8/27/20). These modifications will continue to be reviewed as they re-

late to current regulations surrounding COVID-19 and may be modified if necessary.

MIAA President Granatino continued, “There’s still a great deal of work to do, but the efforts made to date have been amazing and are why we are now able to provide our students with an opportunity to take part in activities that they love and miss dearly.”

All participating MIAA member schools are expected to adhere to these sport modifications.

MIAA Executive Director Bill Gainie added, “On behalf of the membership, I enthusiastically advance pride and gratitude to MIAA Task Force members, the MIAA Sports Medicine and sport committee representatives for their valuable contributions in providing a blueprint for MIAA student athletes to participate in educational athletics this fall season. Stakeholders’ participation, guidance and collaboration with DESE and EEA warrant like appreciation.”



Submitted photo

Aaron Fellows was the big winner in the late model sportsman event.

RACE from page 10

had led all but the first lap, brining his refuse-to-lose attitude to this one and scoring his second win of the year. Robie, from 14th, was second.

Modified rookie Solomon Brow walked away from a bone-crunching crash into the backchute wall on lap 18. Trevor Bleau, who’d grenaded to 18th in the first go-round, sat out the nightcap, falling from third in the late-season point standings deep into the top ten.

Aaron Fellows went low under lappers on the ninth circuit of the Late Model Sportsman feature and then checked out on the 13-car field to win for the tenth time in eleven outings.

At 41, Fellows has been winning races for a quarter century. Saturday’s runner-up, teen Camdyn Curtis, doesn’t even have a driver’s license yet. Still, though, the Baltimore, VT. young gun had everyone but Fellows covered, outrunning cagey veteran Robert Hagar to earn the second-place trophy.

Mini Stock points leader Gordon Farnum made easy work of scoring his sixth win of 2020. Taking the lead on lap eight, the Fitzwilliam Flyer outran Kevin Cormier to the checkers, with number two points man Nathan Wenzel third.

The Pure Stock feature was a battle of two up-and-coming drivers each bidding for his first win of the season. Bruce Clark led the first

21 go-rounds, with Matt Lambert, who’d ridden in his shadow all the way, then taking over from the top groove and dashing away to victory.

Chris Davis, looking for his fourth win of the season, got up for second, with Jimmy Zellman third, Clark fourth, and points leader Mike Douglas fifth, ending the night’s action 36 points ahead of Davis, the defending Pure Stock champion.

Doug Meservey Jr. led all the way in the Pro-4 Modified 30-lapper. Randy Cabral was second under the checkers, with Al Reiser topping the Pro-4 Lites class.

In Senior Tour Auto Racing events, Richard Eastman of Merrick, Mass. topped the STAR Sportsman 15-lapper aboard a Pinto. Curt Snow, of West Warren, Mass., got the job done in the STAR Modifieds with his 1936 Chevy Coupe.

With only three scheduled racing events remaining in its exciting 2020 season, Monadnock Speedway will return to action next Saturday, September 12. For more information, please visit www.monadnockspeedway.com.

MONADNOCK SPEEDWAY SEPTEMBER 5 TOP TENS:

NHSTRA Modified Feature 1 Results: Brian Robie, Brian Chapin, Scott MacMichael, Stewart McCormack, Ben Byrne, Alyssa Rivera, Russ Hersey, Kim Rivet, Jason Houle, Chris Riendeau, Matt Kim-

ball, Todd Patnode, Solomon Brow, Cory Plummer, Cameron Houle, Brad Zahensky, Jerry Gomarolo, Trevor Bleau, Eric Leclair, Brian Crunden, Kevin Pittsinger

NHSTRA Modified #2 Results (Unofficial): Matt Kimball, Brian Robie, Ben Byrne, Brian Chapin, Chris Riendeau, Cory Plummer, Kim Rivet, Eric Leclair, Jerry Gomarolo, Jason Houle, Kevin Pittsinger, Todd Patnode, Brad Zahensky, Stewart McCormack, Alyssa Rivera, Cameron Houle, Solomon Brow, Russ Hersey, Scott MacMichael

Late Model Sportsman: Aaron Fellows, Camdyn Curtis, Robert Hagar, Cole Littlewood, Justin Littlewood, Will Kuhn, Dan Comeau, Ronald Laperche, Scott Beck, Nancy Muni-Ruot, Chris Ballas, Matt Winter, Chris Jackson

Mini Stock Results: Gordon Farnum, Kevin Cormier, Nathan Wenzel, Kevin Clayton, Jeff Asselin, Kevin McKnight Jr, Tim Leblanc, Joshua Hubbard, Kevin Russell, Erin Aiken, Jake Puchalski, Jeff Heath, Dave Pratt, Adam Sprague, Shelby Avery, Louis Maher, Eric Banks, DNQ - Nadine Coates, DNQ - Tyson Payne

Pure Stock Results: Matt Lambert, Chris Davis, Jimmy Zellman, Bruce Clark, Mike Douglas, Damon Roy, Randy Phillips, Nick Houle, Jason Leray, CJ Johnson, Doug Nelson, Cory Lofland, JD Stockwell, Reagan Buffum, Ben Sylvester, Steve Zebrowski, Brandon Lavoie

► Public Safety

South Hadley Police Log

Compiled by Melina Bourdeau
Townreminder@turley.com

Editor’s note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the South Hadley Police log and arrests for the week of Aug. 10 to Aug. 30. The information was provided by Chief Jennifer Gunderson based on review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Mass General Law prohibits the release of names of those arrested for domestic incidents.

Monday, Aug. 10

12:31 a.m. – Officers responded to Ludlow Rd. for a report of a past break-in and entering into an unlocked vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

9:50 p.m. – Officer responded to Ludlow Rd. residence for a report of a stolen motor vehicle. It was reported the keys left in the car. The car was later recovered in Holyoke.

Wednesday, Aug. 12

8:34 a.m. – Officers responded to Brunelle’s Marina for a report of a break into a vehicle that was parked there. The reporting party said they were parked at the marina during the day and an unknown people entered their car, stealing cash and other small items. The matter is an ongoing investigation.

3:39 p.m. – Officers took a report of a stolen bicycle from a residence on Gaylord St. There are no suspects at this time.

8:23 p.m. – Officers responded to Grant and Bridge St. for a disturbance. The reporting party said they were being assaulted with a dangerous weapon. An investigation was done, and officers were unable to locate any weapon.

Thursday, Aug. 13

2:52 a.m. – While on patrol, an officer saw a vehicle speeding and stopped the vehicle. While attempting to stop the vehicle, the officer saw books, papers and items being thrown out of the car. The driver continued into Chicopee and the officer broke off pursuit. The officer went back and found the discarded items, and in the document the owner of the vehicle was identified, who later reported the vehicle was stolen.

Sunday, Aug. 16

9:05 a.m. – Officer took a report from a Magnolia Terr. resident reporting his car was stolen overnight. The resident said they left their key fob in the vehicle. Hartford Police Department called reporting they recovered the vehicle.

9:35 a.m. – Officers took a report of a vehicle broken into overnight. The resident said they didn’t believe anything was stolen, but it obvious someone had gone through it. A short time later, it was reported another vehicle was broken into, and items were taken. The matter is an ongoing investigation.

Monday, Aug. 17

9:18 a.m. – Officers took a report of a crash on Granby Rd. A resident reported they heard a loud noise and upon looking outside, saw a vehicle struck mile marker signs. The vehicle left the scene. There is no other information at this time.

9:36 a.m. – Officers took a report of identity fraud.

11:24 a.m. – Officers responded to a Canal St. residence for a report of breaking and entering into a building under construction. Officers reported some vandalism and that the windows were open which may have been the point of entry. Nothing was stolen from the building.

There is no other information at this time.
3:56 p.m. – Officers took a report of two stolen bicycles from a Bardwell street residence. One bicycle was later recovered on School St. There is no further information at this time.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

7:28 a.m. – Officers responded to a single-vehicle accident in the area of the Rt. 202 overpass, when the operator of tree service truck travelling struck the bridge and went off the roadway. No injuries were reported. The truck was towed from the scene.

5:03 p.m. – An officer was parked on Veterans Bridge when they observed a dirt bike travelling northbound with no registration. The officer activated their lights to stop the operator and began pursuit, when they turned a corner, the bike was on the ground. The operator was picking himself off the ground. A complaint was filed for an unregistered and uninsured dirt bike. The operator sustained minor injuries and the bike was towed from the scene.

7:54 – Angel Manuel Acevedo, 27, of 17 Yvonne St., Chicopee was arrested on charges of a second offense of operating under the influence of drugs. Officers received a report of an operator driving erratically on the Rt. 202 rotary. It was reported he was continuously driving around the rotary. When the officer arrived on scene, the car was parked in the travel lane on the exit ramp. While interacting with operator of the vehicle, the officer observed the operator was under the influence of drugs.

Wednesday, Aug. 19

8:52 a.m. – Officers took a report of two cars broken into overnight on Spring St. Nothing was taken out of one vehicle, but miscellaneous items stolen from the other.

2:16 p.m. – Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle on River Lodge and Upper River Rd. no injuries reported attempting to pull out of upper river came into contact with another vehicle travelling on river lodge road. No injuries were reported, both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.

3:14 p.m. – A Ludlow Rd. resident reported her car was broken into. The vehicle was gone through, but nothing reported stolen. Another resident reported being in the same parking lot near the Town Hall and reported her car also gone through nothing anything.

Thursday, Aug. 20

11:59 a.m. – Officers received a report of shoplifting at a local business. The business owner reported a female party came into the store stealing various bottles of liquor. The individual identified by surveillance video and will be issued a summons to court.

Friday, Aug. 21

12:17 p.m. – Officers took a report of breaking and entering a Canal Street building under construction. The reporting party said the site had some vandalism, a screen was kicked out and the fire extinguishers used.

Saturday, Aug. 22

9:32 a.m. – Officers took a report of stolen vehicle from Susan Ave. The vehicle was left unlocked, but the reporting party said he had the only key. The vehicle was located parked and unoccupied in Chicopee. Later on, the spare key was found inside of the car was not present when the vehicle was recovered. The owner of the vehicle reported other items in the vehicle were stolen.

7:06 p.m. – Jeffrey Faust 39, of Windsor Locks CT, was charged with operating under the influence of liquor, leaving scene of property damage in an accident,

failure to stop for police, reckless operation of motor vehicle, fail to stop for a stop sign, a marked lanes violation and assault with a dangerous weapon when he drove at the officers.

An officer was on a detail at Brunelle’s Marina and was advised there was an accident between two vehicles in the parking lot. As the officer spoke with one of the operators, who reported the suspect struck his parked vehicle with a trailer. The officer spoke to the suspect who was uncooperative and appeared to be under the influence. While speaking to him, the suspect put the vehicle into gear and started to drive off. The officer called in for another unit to assist. The vehicle left the parking lot turning onto Albert St. Driving towards the officer, the suspect was operating erratically, crossing over the center lines and failed to stop at an intersection. The vehicle drove off the roadway onto the grass at one point. Once on Mueller Bridge, the operator began to drive between the two travel lanes. South Hadley Police followed the vehicle which went toward Rt. 91 where the State Police deployed spike strips. The suspect was placed under arrest by the State Police and booked at the Springfield barracks.

10:39 p.m. – Officers responded to an accident. The operator of a motorcycle failed to negotiate a bend in road, went off the roadway, struck a sign and came to rest in the travel lane. The operator and passenger had minor injuries. The motorcycle was towed from the scene.

Sunday, Aug. 23

1:17 a.m. – Officers responded to crash after a driver struck a deer on Hadley St. There was damage to the vehicle. No injuries on the driver and there is no information on status on the deer.

Monday, Aug. 24

6:45 p.m. – A resident reported a larceny of items from a storage shed. The matter is under investigation.

Tuesday, Aug. 25

7:13 a.m. – Officers responded to a local business for a report of a motorcycle with significant damage in parking lot. Officers arrived on scene and found the motorcycle didn’t have a license plate. There was significant damage reported to the motorcycle including several missing parts. An investigation revealed the motorcycle was traveling north on Hadley St. when the operator failed to negotiate the turn, colliding with a tree before coming to rest in the parking lot. It was determined the motorcycle belonged to person out of Northampton. The operator was later found and issues a summons for leaving the scene, unlicensed operation and marked lanes violation. The motorcycle was towed front the scene.

5:07 p.m. – A North Main St. resident reported their vehicle was damaged after someone tried to break into it overnight. The officer reported what was believed to be pry marks on the driver’s side door. The door was damaged.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

9:50 p.m. – Officers took a report of a vehicle which was abandoned after a crash. The reporting party was in the area of the Route 202 rotary when they observed a car come over the bridge, the vehicle was reported abandoned at a West Summit St. address. Neighbors reported seeing a crash and two people run off. The vehicle was towed from the scene and the matter is under investigation.

Thursday, Aug. 27

10:16 a.m. – Officers took a report of stolen catalytic converter from a local

car dealership. No further information is available at this time.

11:48 a.m. – Officers took a report of stolen sign from a Bernard Street residence. There are no suspects at this time.

Friday, Aug. 28

12:16 a.m. – Officers took a report of a hit and run in a Bridge Street parking lot. Minor damage was reported.

9:16 p.m. – Officers took a report from a Lathrop St. resident fell victim to a scam involving a Craigslist add for an apartment. She put a down payment. No information at this time.

9:30 p.m. – Officers responded to Brunelle’s Marina for a report of a fight in progress. One person reported they were assaulted by another person. One party left by boat prior to the officer’s arrival. No serious injuries were reported. The matter is an ongoing investigation.

Sunday, Aug. 30

8:42 a.m. – Officers responded to a residence after a report of an attempted break in. The reporting party said they heard a loud thud and found a window to their home was impacted by something. The window had hole in it, and it was cracked and shattered. There is no further information at this time.

8:01 p.m. – Officers responded to East Street for a single vehicle crash. Upon their arrival, officers found a car struck tree. The operator left the scene and the passenger was unconscious in the vehicle. During an investigation, officers responded to the home of the registered owner of the vehicle. The officers made contact with the person and believed they were under the influence. He was charged accordingly and arraigned Aug. 31 in Eastern Hampshire district court. The vehicle was towed from the scene and the passenger was transported by South Hadley Fire District #1 to Baystate.

Granby Police Log

Editor’s Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 243 calls for the week of Aug. 23 through Sept. 3. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

Monday, Aug. 31

1:20 p.m. – Officers investigate report of a stolen registration plate.

4:30 p.m. – Officers investigated a report of identity theft.

6:35 p.m. – A citation was issued for operating a motor vehicle with revoked registration.

7:24 p.m. – A criminal citation issued for unlicensed motor vehicle operation.

9:14 p.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident at Chicopee Street and East State Street. The operator drove off roadway and struck a sign.

Tuesday, Sept. 1

3:38 p.m. – Derek D. Perez, 34, of 317 Regency Park Drive, Agawam, was arrested on charges of possession of Class A drugs.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

10:02 a.m. – Officers investigated a two-car accident on West State Street. Minor injuries were reported.

2:34 p.m. – Officers investigated a two-car accident on East State Street and School Street. No injuries were reported.

Thursday, Sept. 3

9:07 a.m. – A criminal citation was issued for unlicensed motor vehicle operation.

POLICE from page 8

“I’m pretty shocked by the increase in calls,” said Gundersen. “Compared to 2019, we had an increase of over 700 calls for service during that period. That represented a 15% increase by our officers out there working.”

There was a 220% increase in the amount of service calls for family conflicts or violence. From June through August there were 60 calls; during the same period last year there were only 18.

To enhance transparency, the department recently uploaded onto the town’s website a sophisticated list of important statistics ranging from the sex and race of officers to monthly call logs dating back six months.

“Every month you can see how many domestics we responded to or how many noise complaints we’ve responded to,” said Gundersen. “That’s just to be a little bit more transparent for that inquiry of, ‘What are you doing?’”

The department also uploaded a professional standards and internal affairs section to steer residents on the process of communicating to the town issues regarding local law enforcement. Residents also have the ability to compliment the department.

“At the same time, I also added an opportunity for people to commend our officers,” said Gundersen. “It’s an easier way for me to hear when we’ve done the right things so I get that information down. It’s certainly been a challenging time in policing even here in South Hadley so I think that page will be beneficial.”

Solution sought for car thefts

Car thefts and break-ins have been a thorn in the side of law enforcement officials in both Connecticut and Massachusetts since the spring. Vehicles are being stolen in Hampshire County and discovered in Hartford, Connecticut.

“We’ve seen motor vehicle breaks increase substantially; not just in three months but in six months,” said Gundersen. “We’ve been trying hard to educate people through social media; we’re working on a task force. That’s a Connecticut and Massachusetts task force our detectives are working on to try to address that.”

Western Massachusetts has become a popular location for car theft, and the trend does not have an end in sight. Encouraging residents to lock their vehicles, Gundersen assured residents that a solution is being sought.

“This is a difficult crew to stay on top of so we’re really trying hard to just come up with some different strategies to address that,” she said.

Dalton Zbierski is a staff writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

WORKSHOP from page 5

Street. Discovering a deeper interest in Eastern Philosophy and yoga, she embarked on a quest around the globe, traveled to China, Tibet and Nepal and participated in Ashtanga yoga intensive at the holistic yoga Ashrama in Kathmandu. Later, while in London UK, she received a Hatha Yoga Teacher Certification from the Yoga Education Institute. Nadya developed an interest in Ayurveda while living and studying yoga in Nepal in 2002 and has been learning about the guiding principles of Ayurveda ever since. Over the years she’s had an opportunity to deepen her knowledge by learning from such renowned practitioners as Maya Tiwari, Kate O’Donnell, Deepak Chopra, Amadea Morningstar, John Douliard and Cate Stillman.

She has been teaching in-person in the Pioneer Valley for the last 10 years. Originally from Kazakhstan, Nadya is fluent in Russian and conversant in Mandarin, with background and degrees in international relations, East Asian studies, social anthropology and education. She is a mom of four young children who inspire her every day.

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Health & Wellness

Warm humid weather ramps up mosquito population, EEE threat

Staff Report

PALMER – As of Aug. 15, the second confirmed human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis of the season has been detected in Massachusetts. A woman in her 60s from Hampden County in the western part of the state tested positive on Saturday, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH).

As a result, the risk level for EEE in Wilbraham has been raised to critical and the risk level in Hampden and Monson has been raised to high. Other communities in the region have been raised to a moderate risk for the mosquito-borne illness, officials said.

Mosquito season is usually associated with the hotter summer months, but it actually begins much earlier and extends well into autumn.

If you’ve been outside recently you may have noticed that mosquitoes are out in full force.

Some mosquitoes carry germs that can make people and some animals sick. While some mosquito bites will only itch, others can carry potentially dangerous illnesses. In Massachusetts, the diseases linked to mosquitoes are West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus.

As the threat of EEE rises in Massachusetts, the community needs to take precautions when outdoors.

“The best way to prevent illnesses from mosquito bites is to protect yourself and your family from bites,” said Dr. Robert Spence, chief of Emergency Medicine for Baystate Wing Hospital and Baystate Mary Lane Outpatient Center.

It is possible that some people who become infected with mosquito borne viruses may not develop any symptoms or in some cases only flu-like symptoms. The incubation period for the virus from the time of an infected mosquito bite to onset of illness ranges from four to 10 days and the illness can last one to two weeks,” said Dr. Spence. “There is no specific treatment for EEE. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses, and no effective an-

ti-viral drugs have been discovered for the treatment of EEE. Severe illnesses are treated by supportive therapy, which may include hospitalization, respiratory support, IV fluids and prevention of other infections.”

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, there are over 3,000 different kinds, also called “species,” of mosquitoes identified worldwide, with more than 150 different kinds of mosquitoes found in North America. Fifty-one different kinds of mosquitoes have been found in Massachusetts. Mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide, a gas that humans and other animals breathe out and can follow a stream of carbon dioxide from as far as 50 feet away.

Mosquitoes need stagnant water in order to lay their eggs and what most people don’t realize is the surprising number of areas around their own house where mosquitoes can find the stagnant water they need. All a female mosquito needs is a bottle cap of water to lay 100 to 200 eggs, once the eggs are laid, they hatch into larvae within 24 to 48 hours, so any temporary body of water that is present for more than a week can be a mosquito breeding habitat.

EEE is relatively rare in humans, although there are occasional outbreaks in certain regions of the country. Fewer than 100 people have died from EEE in Massachusetts in the past 75 years, according to the Department of Public Health. In the United States, approximately five to 10 EEE cases are reported annually. The risk of getting EEE is highest from late July through September when more mosquitoes are present and active.

West Nile virus (WNV) is a mosquito-carried virus most commonly spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito.

“The majority of people who are infected with WNV, some 80% will have no symptoms. A smaller number of people who become infected, less than 20% will have symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands. Less than 1% of people infected with WNV will develop severe illness, in-

cluding encephalitis or meningitis. There is no specific treatment for WNV infections. People with mild WNV infections usually recover on their own. People with severe WNV infections almost always require hospitalization,” said Dr. Spence. He encourages community members to follow The Department of Public Health tips that will help people protect themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes:

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours: The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning.

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors: Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites: Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and sock when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home and Drain Standing Water: Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. They can begin to multiply in any puddle or standing water that lasts for more than four days. If you have a bird bath in your yard, be sure to empty it daily and refill with fresh water. Remove containers that may hold water in places that are hard to see such as under bushes, porches, decks, or stairs.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

More information about different types of mosquitoes that can spread the virus can be found on the MDPH website at mass.gov/dph/wnv. For more information about emergency care visit Baystate Wing Hospital or Baystate Mary Lane Outpatient Center.

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Public Notices

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – TO BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY/ONLINE

The South Hadley Planning Board, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40-A, Section 11, Massachusetts General Laws as modified by Chapter 53 of the Special Acts of 2020 and the Governor’s Executive Orders pertaining to public gatherings during the COVID 19 State of Emergency, will hold a virtual public hearing on **Monday October 5, 2020 at 6:45 p.m.** to discuss the application of Quentin and Nicole Amrani; 14 Silverwood Terrace; South Hadley, MA 01075 for a Special Permit to alter/expand a nonconforming structure/use under Section 255-7 of the Town’s Zoning Bylaw. The public hearing will be conducted virtually/online using the Google Meet platform and persons may join the meeting by either joining Google Meet or by phone. Final login information will be provided on the posted agenda for the October 5, 2020 meeting (agenda to be posted on the Town’s website no later than Thursday October 1, 2020). Tentative login information as of September 9, 2020 is:

Join By Google Meet:

meet.google.com/xpx-diqv-rig
Join By Phone: (US) +1 415-604-0805 PIN: 292 857 529#

The subject property has a house located thereon which does not meet the current front or side setback requirements; thus, the residence is a pre-existing, nonconforming structure. They are seeking a Special Permit to add onto the structure and the additions will be less conforming to the setback requirements than the existing structure.

The subject property is located along the north side of Silverwood Terrace and identified on Assessor’s Map Number #52 as Parcel #199. The property is located in the Residence A-1 zoning district.

Plans and the application (and supporting documentation) are on file in the Planning & Conservation Department Office (Room U6) in Town Hall. The plans and application (and supporting documentation) titled “14 Silverwood Terrace” are also posted on the Planning & Conservation Department’s “Project Plans” page on the Town’s website www.southhadley.ma.gov in a section titled “Alterations of Nonconforming Structures”. Any person interested in, or wishing to be heard regarding, this application should appear

at the time and place designated.

Joanna Brown, Clerk
South Hadley Planning Board
9/11, 9/17/2020

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REVISED NOTICE

The South Hadley Planning Board, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11; Massachusetts General Laws as modified by Chapter 53 of the Special Acts of 2020; Chapter 40R, Massachusetts General Laws; Section 255-23 of the South Hadley Zoning Bylaw; the South Hadley Planning Board Administrative Regulations Regarding Applications and Plan Review under Smart Growth 40R Districts; Chapter 200 of the Town of South Hadley General Bylaws; and the Governor’s Executive Orders pertaining to public gatherings during the COVID 19 State of Emergency, will hold a virtual public hearing on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. to discuss the application of South Hadley Plaza, LLC; 40 Island Pond Road; Springfield, MA 01118 for Plan Approval

under Section 255-23 of the Town’s Zoning Bylaw and the Planning Board’s Administrative Regulations Regarding Applications and Plan Review under Smart Growth 40R Districts and approval of a Stormwater Management Permit under Chapter 200 of the Town of South Hadley By-Laws for development of a 60-unit apartment building. The public hearing will be conducted virtually/online using the Google Meet platform and persons may join the meeting by either joining Google Meet or by phone. Final login information will be provided on the posted agenda for the September 21, 2020 meeting (agenda to be posted on the Town’s website no later than Thursday September 17, 2020). Tentative login information as of August 26, 2020 is:

Join By Google Meet: meet.google.com/pxt-zo-za-cna

Or By Phone: (US) +1 240-734-0140 PIN: 352 835 930#

The applicant is seeking Plan Approval and a Stormwater Management Permit to allow construction and operation of a 60-unit apartment building. Other elements of the project include provision of green space, parking, landscaping, Stormwater management facilities, and

related improvements. The subject property is generally identified as 501 Newton Street and is located at the intersection of Newton and Lyman Streets and is generally identified as a 3 acre portion of the 9.2-acre Parcel #200 and **10,386 square feet of Parcel #194 on Assessor’s Map #28 except as Parcel #200 is altered by Land Swap Agreement dated August 31, 2020.** The subject property lies within the Newton Street Smart Growth District.

Plans and the application (and supporting documentation) are on file in the Planning & Conservation Department Office (Room U6) in Town Hall. The plans and application (and sup-

porting documentation) are also posted on the Planning & Conservation Department’s “Project Plans” Page of the Town’s website www.southhadley.ma.gov in a Section titled “Newton Street (501) – Woodlawn Plaza Housing Development”. Any person interested in, or wishing to be heard regarding, this application should appear/join the hearing at the time and in the manner designated.

Joanna Brown, Clerk
South Hadley Planning Board
9/04, 9/11/2020



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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development “ HUD ” toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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